

Hazardous waste site listed under: the
Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA) ("Superfund")

AMERICAN CHEMICAL SERVICE
Griffith, Indiana

SEP 02 1987

American Chemical Service recycled chemicals in Griffith, Indiana, from 1958 to 1975, when it voluntarily stopped using two disposal areas on-site and covered them. The State has responded to complaints about the company since 1972. The site contains buried drums and sludges; the amounts, nature, and source are unknown. The shallow aquifer beneath the site is contaminated with pentachlorophenol, benzene, toluene, vinyl chloride, 1,1,1-trichloroethylene, and other compounds. The majority of the 10,000 people residing within 3 miles of the site use the lower aquifer for drinking purposes. The aquifers are separated by a continuous 15-to-25 foot layer of clay.

SEP 2 11 00 AM '83
DIV OF LABOR & INDUSTRY CONTROL
STATE BOARD OF HEALTH

EPA Region 5 Records Ctr.



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American Chemical Service (ACS)
Narrative

ACS is a chemical recycling facility operating in Lake County, Indiana. Two areas that were used for drum and sludge disposal in the past are of concern today. One of the disposal areas in an adjacent city landfill has been studied on numerous occasions by the U.S. EPA. The other disposal area located in the center of the ACS site was inspected by the ISBH in the past, but now is covered over with roads and storage tanks. The buried drums contained residues such as phenol, isophorone, naphthalene and numerous other wastes. Groundwater contamination has been documented at the landfill site. The on-site disposal area has yet to be studied.

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American Chemical Service (ACS)
Enforcement Summary

No action has been taken against ACS concerning the two disposal areas. In 1975, ACS voluntarily stopped the dumping and covered the sites. The State does not have on file a notification from ACS as required by Section 103(c) of CERCLA, which may be a violation of CERCLA.

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American Chemical Service (ACS)
Response Summary

The Indiana State Board of Health has responded to waste disposal complaints at ACS since 1972.

The U.S. EPA, under the authority of Section 311 of the Clean Water Act, required ACS to cover the drum/sludge disposal area in the adjacent landfill.

The U.S. EPA Field Investigation Team placed and sampled monitoring wells in August of 1982, around the adjacent landfill disposal area.